

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph found from page 11, line 21 through page 13, line 2 as follows:

If the audio and video time alignments are sufficiently close in time (e.g., less than or equal to 0.5 of the time taken up by one frame on the ~~audiovisual~~ audiovisual medium making use of the present invention), the audio and visual portions of the presentation are deemed to be synchronized. If not, a synchronization algorithm, which time adjusts the two portions, is invoked. Preferably, because the change is generally less noticeable and disturbing to the audience, the audio portion is time-adjusted to the visual portion; however if deemed necessary, the visual portion can be time-adjusted to the audio portion; or, each can be time-adjusted at a different rate to achieve alignment. One advantageous version of the synchronization algorithm, which adjusts the audio and visual portions gradually so as not to be noticeable to the audience operates as follows:

(a) at step 540, determine the difference in time between the leftmost matching articulatory types of the visual and audio speech recognizer output;

(b) at step 542, divide the difference into segments of length equal to 0.5 of the frame length of the relevant audiovisual medium (plus any remainder). (note: the frame length will vary according to the medium. For example, for movies in

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the U.S., it is 1/24 sec; for video in the U.S., it is approximately 1/30 sec; and for movies and video in Europe, it is 1/25 sec.); and

(c) at step 544, adjust the audio to the visual representation by moving the audio forward or backward (as appropriate) by one segment per frame until all segments (and any remainder) have been moved. Note that the pitch of the speech segments that are moved should be adjusted back to their original frequencies, by means familiar to those skilled in the art, so as to appear natural to the audience.

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